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CO-OP PACKING PLANTS URGED

Roper Hits Out At Oil Sands Deal

An announcement that additional large sums are to be expended by the Alberta government under the agreement with Oil Sands Limited for the erection of an experimental plant at Bitumont on the Athabasca river, has brought a sharp protest from Elmer E. Roper, provincial leader of the C.C.F.

An obviously inspired newspaper story intimated that the total expenditure on the oil sands venture might run to \$1,000,000. The first appropriation was for \$250,000. The total already spent is \$500,000.

Opposition members in the legislature in the last session strenuously opposed further appropriations. The oil sands deal, made and carried out by the Minister of Public Works, Hon. W. A. Fallo, came in for vigorous criticism from the C.C.F. members who referred to it as "a pretty smelly business".

"Heads We Lose . . ." "C.C.F. opposition to the expenditure of the money is not based on any unwillingness to call public monies in an attempt to prove the practicability of producing oil from the Athabasca sands," Mr. Roper said in a statement to the press on Tuesday. (Continued on Page 8)



PERSONAL STUFF

BY

E. E. R.

In places like the Drumheller valley of the Red Deer river the coal lies at two levels in flat seams, the way the tropical vegetation of which it is composed fell in the pre-historic swamps of a receding inland sea a few million years ago. But in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains, and in the mountains themselves, the coal seam, as well as the various strata of rocks, was up-ended when the upheaval which gave the continent the Rockies took place. So coal is mined in the mountains from what is called a "pitching seam". From 1911 when my father took a crew of men to sink the first prospect holes for what is now known as the Rosedale mine in the Drumheller valley, I have been more or less familiar with flat seam mining. I worked there for a year. But it was difficult for me to understand just how a pitching seam was worked. Last week I had the chance to see a pitching seam mine in operation.

Through the kindness of Mr. L. G. Chavignaud, Manager of the McLeod River Hard Coal Company at Mercor, I spent two and a half hours underground. Pit Boss Alex McQueen, with whom I travelled, spared no pains to make my visit enjoyable and educational. We went down the steep (32 degree) slope in a coal car and stopped at a level 650 feet below the surface. Here an entry started off through the mountain following the coal seam and, of course, mining it as the entry is driven. (Continued on page 8)

David Lewis to Speak on Radio, Wednesday, 9 p.m.

OTTAWA (CPA) — Signaling the start of a great national drive to bring new members into the C.C.F., David Lewis, C.C.F. National Secretary, will tell the Canadian people the open story of party organization in this unique people's movement, in a nation-wide broadcast on Wednesday, October 8, at 9 p.m., mountain standard time. His topic will be "Pioneers of Today".

This is one of the periods allotted to the C.C.F. in the free political broadcast series. M. J. Coldwell, usually heard in these talks, will be in the United States at that time to fill speaking engagements there.

CHERRILL CLUB MEETS CHALLENGE

Harold Brunson, secretary of the Cherhill C.C.F. Club, was an early visitor to the office this week with \$30-worth of good news for the radio fund in his pocket. So Mr. Wolferstan's cheque now goes into the bank and another week of broadcasting has been paid for.

With farmers again getting busy on their harvesting work it seems that the fund will have to depend in the immediate future on contributions of this kind to keep the radio program on the air. So who's going to keep this challenge moving?

During the week contributions of \$18.00 each were received from Mr. and Mrs. W. Scott, Leithbridge and Jack Griffin, Macleod, so Mr. Albert really did start something. Acknowledgment is made of the following contributions:

Mr. and Mrs. W. Scott, \$18.00; Jack Griffin, \$18.00; C. Wolferstan, \$30.00; Cherhill Club, \$30.00; A. O'Shea, \$1.00; A. Anderson, \$1.00.

M. J. Coldwell

Asks Parliament Deal With Dollar Crisis, Aid to Europe

OTTAWA (CPA)—A fall session of Parliament will deal with Canada's dwindling dollar supply and the need for immediate assistance to Britain and Europe was urged by M. J. Coldwell, National Leader of the C.C.F., in a speech at Sudbury last Friday.

Mr. Coldwell said Canada was drifting at an accelerated pace into serious difficulties, and that the world dollar crisis required action now, not six months hence.

They Like Stalemate In the same address Mr. Coldwell went on to speak of the need for immediate agreement in the field of Dominion-Provincial relations, and charged that Premier King, Duplessis and Drew preferred the present stalemate, in the hope that they could win the coming elections by blaming each other for their failures. He said the province of Saskatchewan had gone so far as its resources could permit in providing the social services promised by the Kief government in 1946.

• Buck-Passing Mr. Coldwell said these useless people put an end to the constant buck-passing in Dominion-Provincial relations, they would (Continued on Page 8)

Compare These Prices



Mrs. Nissa Feldman of the League of Women Shoppers carried these two baskets into the room where the Congressional committee investigating high prices conducted a hearing in New York. The inarticulate baskets spoke volumes. One held groceries labeled with 1939 prices, the other held the 1947 equivalent. The increase was 300%.

Britain's Co-ops Would End Lords

LONDON (CNS)—Two resolutions calling for the abolition of the House of Lords have been forwarded to Co-operative Party headquarters by local Co-operative Party groups in Hounslow and Billerica. All resolutions submitted will be considered by the Party's 21st annual conference.



Warning that inflation is "roaring like a prairie fire throughout America and threatens to engulf the world," Pres. James G. Patton of the Farmers' Educational and Co-operative Union hit those selfish interests who blame farmers for the crisis. He urged strict government controls to lower prices and called for increased steel production after charging the industry with a "sit-down strike against expansion."

BRITISH UNIONS ACCEPT PLAN TO DIRECT WORKERS

LONDON, England.—Membership of trade unions affiliated to the British Trades Union Congress increased by 869,277 during 1946 and the total membership on December 31 last was 7,540,397. Of this total 1,217,000 were women.

The 79th annual meeting of the Trades Union Congress at Southampton in September commenced with an emergency session on coal. Miners were urged to produce more of this commodity so vitally needed to build up British prosperity and were promised "I.L.C. support in efforts to improve miners' conditions of work."

Mr. Will Lawther, president of the National Union of Mine-workers, paying a tribute to the new order in the industry, declared: "We have had better consideration under the Coal Board in six months than in (Continued on Page 8)

A.L.C. Wants Farmers to Open Plant

Alberta's 90,000 farmers could end their stock marketing problems by going into the meat-packing industry themselves, S. W. Sheppard, Edmonton manager of Alberta Livestock Co-operative, Limited, said in a statement issued on Monday in which he declared that he believed "the time was ripe" for such a move.

He suggested that each farmer might contribute a minimum of \$100 toward a packing plant fund. This would amount to some \$9,000,000, and for this figure he estimated that "at least two fully up-to-date plants could be completed."

He proposed that the plants should be operated co-operatively with the members sharing in patronage dividends. They would (Continued on Page 8)

INFANT DEATHS SHOW INCREASE; BIRTHRATE UP

OTTAWA (CPA) — Though Canada's birth-rate in 1946 reached the highest level since the early 20s, a rate of 26.5 per 1000 population, there has been an increase in the number of infant deaths, according to figures recently released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Deaths under one year of age rose to 15,081 from 14,823 in 1945. Deaths under one month were also up to 8,880 compared with 8,244 in 1945.

For the whole population, figures for 1946 as compared to 1945 showed an increase in deaths from tuberculosis, 5,797 (5,546); influenza, 1,593 (1,087); measles 234 (97); acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis 177 (24); cancer 14,581 (14,439); pneumonia, 5,595 (5,540); suicide, 985 (764); motor vehicle accidents, 1,708 (1,539). Deaths from typhoid and scarlet fever, whooping cough, heart disease, diarrhea and enteritis were down slightly in 1946 as compared to 1945. There was a minor increase in the total number of deaths.

Press Interviews Proving Embarrassing to Liberals

By DONALD C. MacDONALD
OTTAWA (CPA) — Liberal Cabinet Ministers returning home from Britain have been bothered with that very old problem. Every time they open their mouth, they put their foot in it. It's becoming a bit embarrassing.

First, there was Reconstruction Minister Howe. Warning up in the enervating atmosphere of the Toronto Liberal Business Men's Club, Mr. Howe was reported to have said that the British Labor Government "had thought

it necessary to carry out their (socialist) ideology instead of meeting the problems in hand."

Well, coming from Mr. Howe who has been rather outspoken in his determination to carry out his free enterprise ideology even at the sacrifice of Canada's housing needs, that became 1947's prime instance of the pot calling the kettle black. In addition, of course, it was a gross misrepresentation of the facts of present day Britain.

Anyway, Mr. Howe was shocked (Continued on Page 8)

An Open Letter to the Farmer

From A Packinghouse Worker

Dear Friend:

You're probably wondering why we packinghouse workers are out on strike.

It seems hard to understand, especially since you've heard so much about the "high wages" were supposed to be getting.

We wish it were all true. High wages would make strikes unnecessary and nobody wants a strike, least of all the packinghouse workers.

We recognize your problems. But "high wages" in the packinghouses are a myth. The same kind of myth that we've been hearing for years about farmers. We have been told that the farmers are wallowing in war-erated wealth. That every farmer is a small capitalist with a stranglehold on the public, milking endless profits out of the people, jacking up prices on food and manipulating the markets.

Most of us know differently. Some of us have been farmers ourselves. We know that the farmers suffered through an almost continuous 25-year depression after World War I. And in the last few years little but not much has been done toward providing the farmer with a fair break.

We also know of the uncertainty the farmer faces from year to year on the marketing of his products.

Big Business Smoke Screen
It is interesting that both these falsehoods — "high wages" and "farm prosperity" — come from the same source. They come from the propaganda mills of Big Business.

It's a smoke screen to hide the fact that Big Business is the real profiteer. In their financial statements can be found the real answers to the problems which both the workers and farmers are facing.

We Have Common Interests
Farmers and workers have the same basic interests. They are concerned most with keeping up buying power. They are the chief customers of each others products. Farm prices are hitched to workers wage levels like a team to a plow.

But somewhere between the two stand the "Big Three." Their game is to play one against the other. They build profits out of cutting farm income, rigging the market, forcing breaks in livestock prices. At the same time they profit out of chiseling on workers wages.

Dollars and Cents
What are the facts? During the war and years following, the Big Three packers — Swifts, Burns, Canada Packers — have made record-smashing profits.

At the same time we packinghouse workers have watched the dollars we earn shrink smaller and smaller while living costs keep rising.

No, we are not making the big money which the packers would have you believe. The average packinghouse worker earns less than \$35 a week — which means that a good number earn less than that. We all know how tough it is to raise a family on that kind of income, particularly since we have

to buy all our groceries and pay high rent.

We Don't Want a Strike
Each of us faces a personal crisis. Through our union, we went to the packers and asked for an increase averaging 17½ cents an hour.

You know the answer we got. The same answer you get when you ask for a cent a pound more for your hogs, cattle or your lambs.

During the last four months we've discussed, negotiated and

pleaded with the companies for a just settlement. We used every possible method we know of in order to avoid a strike.

But all the packers offered us was three or five cents and even these had strings attached.

We Need Your Cooperation

We ask you not to fall for the phoney propaganda that the "poor" packers will lower prices for livestock as a means of paying us higher wage rates. We maintain that the packers CAN and MUST pay BOTH the livestock

producers and packinghouse workers enough for decent family living.

Our request for a wage increase would cost only one-tenth of a cent per pound of packinghouse products. This can easily come out of the packers' exorbitant profits. Our TOTAL wages cost only eight cents per sales dollar.

Well, we are not asking you to fight our fight — even though the maintenance of living standards and buying power is your fight as well.

But YOU CAN HELP SHORTEN THE STRIKE. How? By putting whatever pressure you can on the packers for a fair settlement.

We ask you to send them letters and postcards. Pass resolutions in your organization. And let your government officials know too.

Make it clear that you have a stake in this fight.

What helps the worker helps the farmer.

Very truly yours,
"A PACKINGHOUSE WORKER."

Why the Packinghouse Strike:

Contrary to advertisements by the packing companies, the wages of packinghouse workers are not high — the average union packinghouse worker's wage per annum is \$1742 or 79c per hour.

Why are the figures quoted by Burns & Company higher than those quoted by the Union?

Because the Company has included all the salaries from the president of the company down to the worker.

The wage increase asked by the Union does not have to be passed on to the consumer or producer.

The packers can easily absorb it. If the total wage increase asked for by the union was granted it would only amount to one-tenth of a cent per pound of finished product. The packers are well able to take care of this with profits ranging upwards to 23% on invested capital (on their last operating year).

The real reason behind the strike is not one of money; but a determined effort by the packers to smash or make ineffective the U.P.W.A. — a union that has served its members well.

THE PACKERS ARE ATTEMPTING THIS IN ONE OF THREE WAYS:

1. By turning the producer and consumer against the workers by informing them that the wage increase will be absorbed by them.
2. By breaking the union into small ineffective groups by forcing provincial conciliation, and in this it is apparent that reactionary governments are prepared to support them.
3. By starving the workers into submission through a long strike.

They are national companies, it is a national union, and a national dispute. National conciliation is the only way to settle this strike.

Jack Hampson

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THE PAY-OFF

Two weeks ago when the federal government lifted price controls on most of the remaining commodities it carried out its major election program, namely, to return Canada to "free enterprise" economy. For once it had carried out its election promise. Newspaper comment was that this had come as a "shock" to the people of Canada. The only "shocking" thing about it is perhaps the fact that the government actually did what it was elected to do. Certainly, it did not come as a surprise. Price control removal and subsidy withdrawals have been going on ever since the end of hostilities.

Maybe the government was trying to be kind to those who elected it by doing it gradually. Like the little girl who insisted that her pet dog's tail should be cut off inch by inch instead of in one operation. She thought that it wouldn't hurt so much if it were done piecemeal. Well, the last operation removed quite a slice, and judging by the squawk that went up all across Canada it must have hurt.

The only people who have a right to squawk are the 900,000 C.C.F. supporters who voted for the C.C.F. planned economy program including price controls. The government supporters have no kick coming. They asked for it. This is their pay-off. Had the Progressive Conservatives elected the government the results would have been the same. They asked for it too. Nor would it have made any difference if a Social Credit government were in power in Ottawa. All three old line parties were unanimous about price controls. They must go. Free enterprise must be liberated from wartime shackles and restrictions. As Elmer Roper, provincial C.C.F. leader for Alberta, said in his broadcast the other day: we are "free" now (to charge what the traffic will bear) and—how do you like it?

I think most people realize as well as our neighbors to the south that removal of price controls has not restored our economy to "normalcy." To their surprise people find out that "free enterprise" is not what it was cracked up to be. In a period of monopoly capitalism "free enterprise" is only a phrase to confuse electors on facts of economic life—a red herring drawn across the trail by Trestrail.

The C.C.F. warning has been amply justified. The chain reaction of economic consequences started by removal of price controls is only in the beginning. The results may well be tragic to all of us, Social Crediters, Liberals or Conservatives.

The time has come to face realities. Another federal election is not far off. The C.C.F. takes this opportunity to call on all honest and sincere people to forget their prejudices and traditions and rally with the C.C.F. for a federal administration pledged to price controls and planned national economy. It is not too late, but it's late enough. If we wish to escape economic chaos there is no time to lose. Join the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation NOW.

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The People Speak

Letters to the editor may be published under a pseudonym, but in each case the name and address of the writer must be forwarded to the editor as evidence of good faith. The People's Weekly takes no responsibility for opinions expressed by correspondents and will not publish any letters exceeding 300 words in length.

POLITICAL FREEDOM

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: Just a few lines in reply to Mr. Tudor. You've got me right, Mr. Tudor, I want the right to reverse my vote if I consider it necessary. You may call it "in and out," "tweedledum or tweedledee" or anything you like but I call it political freedom.

You ask me what I would substitute if I voted socialism out. You may rest assured I won't vote socialism out. There would be no need to vote out a government that instituted socialism, but I want that right nevertheless just in case we get a government like the present Social Credit government.

Now just a few lines in comment on what you say about the Marshall Plan. I agree with most of what you say, the Marshall Plan is not to socialize Europe as far as I can judge. It is to combat Russian expansion. Where are we C.C.F.'ers to take our stand, not with the Russians and against the U.S. We do not see democracy in either the communism of Russia or the capitalists of the U.S. Let us rather take for our inspiration the work of the socialist government in Britain and do all we can to work with the other commonwealths—Britain, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa if we can, instead of fruitless discussions pertaining to Russia and the U.S.

HARDY WEAR.

Vermilion.

300 WORD LIMIT ON LETTERS

Positively no letter exceeding 300 words will be published in these columns. More and more readers are writing to the editor every week and it now becomes necessary to strictly enforce the rule that letters must not exceed 300 words. So keep them brief, please.

DOESN'T LIKE "SMEAR"

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: A few weeks ago at a meeting at Calmar, Jaques, Low and Co. made the statement that the A.F.U. was Communist controlled. In the P.W., G. Olsen makes a similar attack upon the People's Weekly.

I presume the space allotted to the readers of the P.W. is controlled by the editor or editorial board, yet Mr. Olsen says "if the Bolsheviks will allow me an inch or two of space, etc."

There is no doubt that the term "Bolshevism" is used as a "smear" in precisely the same manner as Jaques or Low or the Social Crediters would do and Mr. Olsen's whole letter plays into the hands of the warmongers and pro-fascists of this continent. Mr. Olsen rates C.C.F. people as ignoramus and confusionsists and the common people are likewise deceived for 30 million years and still being deceived. "A touch of Jaques again!"

I have just read an article by J. B. Priestly, British novelist and playwright. To quote my fellow Britisher: "Yes, the Russians are tough and no doubt their government was ruthless with dissenters and shirkers but people cannot be bullied into long spells of sheer devotion and heroism. They have to believe heart and soul in what they are defending. Hitler's mistake was in assuming that the Soviet regime had been imposed by force on the Russians and therefore would not fight long for it. And there are people who still talk like that."

"They should go to Leningrad for a few days and keep their noses and ears open. Hitler had his S.S. men and his Gestapo but where were the Leningraders and Stalingraders of Germany when Hitler's own empire was invaded?" One of the "common" people. H. E. TUDOR.

Morningside, Alta.

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RAW DEAL IN SPECIAL AREAS

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: Apart from the "raw deal" for which the weather man is responsible, the only farmers in the special areas who are having a "raw deal" are those who own a few sections of land with little or no leased land. In 1946 when the mill rate was raised those farmers had to meet a big tax bill. This was particularly galling when they realized that their nearest neighbor, a non-title holder with agricultural and grazing leases, had no tax obligations whatsoever.

Taking effect this year the assessment in most cases has been lowered. They might give up the title to part of their holdings and take a twenty-year lease, but the oldtimers hate to give up land on which they have paid taxes for so many years.

The non-title holder has by no means a "raw deal" under a very good gamble. They might be eliminated in the special areas by making ownership of at least a quarter section a necessary condition for obtaining leases. Thus they would become taxable and contribute towards the social services they enjoy.

Local autonomy? How did we come to lose it? Municipalities can no longer function without government financing. Now the special areas are travelling under their own unaided power. But

what is that ugly load in the trailer behind? Debt, unavoidably accumulated during the bad years. How are we to get rid of the trailer and its contents. By adjustment or total cancellation? If by cancellation surely there will be some reimbursement for the men who went on tinkering with their old farms and the women who went without nylons in order to pay off their debts.

The trailer and its contents gone, why should not the special areas course along merrily under their own power with their own elected men (and possibly women) at the wheel!

MRS. M. B. WARREN.
Chinook.

OIL AND PUBLIC OWNERSHIP

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: In 1938 the Mexican government under its president, a full-blooded Indian, Lázaro Cárdenas, expropriated all oil wells and refineries in Mexico, from two very powerful corporations—American and British. They asked 450 millions compensation. The President said "will settle for all fixtures at 22 millions, as the oil belongs to the state of Mexico." The corporations wouldn't accept. U.S. capitalists started a boycott so the oil went to Japan and Germany till the war started, then the Allies were glad to get it.

After six years of Mexico using the oil and refineries, it settled for 20 millions. Mexico had no fear about going up against the two biggest capitalist countries of that time. It thought it was in its right to use its oil for the benefit of all Mexicans. How can we learn from them?

Years for socialism, public ownership and real brotherhood.

P. WM. KOBITZSCH.

Hardisty.

Husband: "Mary, here's a hmar in this piecrust."

Wife: "It looks like one of yours, Henry. It must have come off the rolling pin."



By H. ZELLA SPENCER

SOMETIMES it is most depressing to look over a paper devoted to a study of world affairs today. There seems so much that is disappointing. Happily on the other hand there come reminders that there is another conception to be taken of many of the failures, but we needed the reminder.

For instance, the capitalist press gloats over the action of the British government in directing the field for workers. They quite forget to make equal stress of the fact that the British delegates to the annual Trades Union Congress voted six to one to support that policy.

And an article I read in the "Nation", would I think have been enjoyed by all of you and doubtless by some. But for those who may not have seen Margaret Marshall's article, "Socialism, Communism and the West" written in a most tolerant manner and directed more particularly to the American public, a public which is not always too kindly in judgment of the Britisher and his way of life, I want to pass some on.

She commented that the October Revolution of Russia was one of spectacular breaking with the past; the British change to socialism was one of gradualism retaining much of the past. In fact, she went on to say, it had been so kind to Colonel Blimp and things were so much more successful than had been anticipated, that

only bad news was news. That is why we have heard much of the mistakes they may have made. And by the way, probably exactly that same thing can be said of the Saskatchewan socialistic experiment.

And may I copy two of her paragraphs: "While civil rights and freedom of thought, speech and enquiry were for reasons good, bad or indifferent not inherent in the October Revolution and are still after thirty years non-existent in the Soviet Union, the British revolution was accomplished without sacrifice of these great Western concepts. On the contrary, they were the machinery by which the change from capitalism to socialism was effected."

And the other bit, "Socialism, according to the Western ideal, is not merely a form of economic organization but a way of life. It envisages not the relinquishment of any of the goods of the Western past, in particular the great and still beautiful concepts of freedom for which our ancestors fought and died, but the addition to these goods of other goods—economic justice and social security. For while it is perfectly true that political democracy without economic justice is not enough, it is also true that without political democracy economic justice cannot long endure."

And as she closes, "And in a world which can afford them all, who can believe that its people will ever settle, or settle down, for less?"

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Brewery, Flour, Cereal & Soft Drink Workers of America No. 314—Meets 3rd Wednesday in Labor Hall, President, D. G. Roberts, 9611 53rd Avenue, Soft Drink Branch Secretary, 9537 80th Avenue, phone 33916; Secy-Treasurer, J. Flower, 10352 15th Street, phone 71957; Deliveries delegate, J. Lindner, 10744 95th Street, phone 12941

Carmenets & Joiners of America Local 1328, Edmonton, Alta., United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners in No. 2 Fire Hall, Labor Temple, President, J. A. Smith, 9157 Jasper Avenue, Vice Sec'y, L. D. Pollock, 9255 101A Ave.

Street, Treasurer, J. A. Smith, 11352 95A Street, Business Agent, J. P. Clegg, Labor Temple.

Garment Workers of America No. 129, United—Meets second Wednesday in each month in Labor Hall, President, Perry Williamson, 9548 108A Ave., Recording Secretary, Mrs. A. Smith, 610 G.W. Co.

Fire Fighters, No. 208, International Association of Fire Fighters in No. 2 Fire Hall, President, Tom Steele, 9644 108th St., Edmonton; Secretary-Treasurer, W. Young, 12111 Jasper Ave., Edmonton.

PEOPLE'S WEEKLY

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DOESN'T SMELL GOOD

COMMENT by Premier Manning on the report that the expenditure on the oil sands plant at Bitumont may run to a million dollars, provides a clear revelation of the extreme to which the "free enterprise" of the Social Credit program has carried the government. Mr. Manning's words as reported in the press were:

"If the plant is a success, it can be disposed of at its full value to private interests and the government would be repaid any funds it had allotted, Premier Manning said. "If the plant is not a success, it will have been at least a worthwhile investment by preventing possible future millions being expended on an economically unsound proposition," he added.

The agreement with Oil Sands Limited, a private company, provides for the government to put up all the money to build the experimental plant. If the venture proves a success the government must, under the terms of the agreement, sell the plant to the company for what it cost, on an easy-payment plan. If the experiment is a failure the government will have lost the money expended. As the C.C.F. provincial leader said in a statement to the press this week, this is certainly a "heads you win tails I lose" sort of arrangement.

The C.C.F. does not oppose the expenditure of public money to prove or develop the natural resources of the province. But it does most strenuously oppose a gamble in which the people can't win. As Mr. Roper said, the Social Credit government has argued that since private enterprise risks its capital it should get the rewards. In the case of the oil sands deal the government is going a step further—it is giving a private promoter the rewards while the taxpayers take all the risks.

This outrageously one-sided transaction into which Mr. Fallow has led the government is beginning to develop a very bad odor.

A CRUDE FARCE

SELDOM in the field of industrial relations in Canada has there been anything so crudely farcical as the inter-provincial conference called to discuss the packers' strike. That it should have backfired against the perpetrators of the farce in the heat of a disgusted public opinion, is not surprising.

The only purpose which such a conference could have served was to agree on one conciliator for what is one strike in what we hope will some day be one nation. That the conference should have come to the solemn conclusion that nothing should be done on a nation-wide basis to deal with a nation-wide problem, provides a revelation in what can happen in Canada when a group of little politicians insist on their "right" to be little toads in their own small puddles.

It must be a matter of pride to C.C.F. supporters across Canada that the only statesmanlike suggestions or comment to come out of the conference came from the C.C.F. government in Saskatchewan. Saskatchewan wanted the provinces to agree to take hold of the question in the only sane and sensible way in which it could be handled. It even was ready with the name of a conciliator, the well-known Leonard W. Brockington, K.C., who it suggested should act for all the provinces on a Dominion-wide basis.

But that was a suggestion too simple and sane for Gorgeous George and the other little isolationists among provincial politicians.

THOSE BRITISH BY-ELECTIONS

THE British Labor government has just won its twentieth election, establishing a record unprecedented in British political history. It almost begins to look as if the despatches from overseas correspondents of the millionaire press in Canada, telling of the vast anger of the people of Britain against the government, do not strictly conform to the facts. In plainer language, the Canadian press is filled with calculated lies about Britain, designed to discredit the policies of the British government.

Everyone knows that things are tough in Britain. But everybody with any sense knows that the British government is not responsible for that condition. The bulk of the British people themselves know that they are vastly better off under their Labor government than they would have been under a Tory government. They know that everybody in Britain is getting a fair share of what is available. Under a Tory government there would be plenty for some and scarcity for most. That's the way it has always been under a Tory government.

Surely Canadians are beginning to see that there is something very contradictory between the stories they read in their daily newspapers and the continued by-election support of the government by the British people.

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THE THIRD COLUMN

A MOCKERY AND A SHAM

Toronto (CPA), September 8:

"Peace without prosperity is a mockery and a sham. The Socialists of the world are in charge of conducting, the new industrial revolution of the 20th century, to achieve that prosperity," Morgan Phillips, general secretary of the British Labor Party, told a large banquet audience in Toronto's Royal York Hotel on Saturday, September 6. He laid the challenge before leaders from Commonwealth Labor Parties and from labor, farm and co-op movements of Canada and the United States, meeting in a week-end informal conference to discuss the European and world crisis."

★

THE UNFORGIVABLE SIN

Rob Kay Reports in Glasgow

Forward, September 13:

"Joe Westwood has been getting into hot water with some of the pundits of the Kirk for breaking the Sabbath by addressing the Labor Party's Highland Conference in Inverness last Sunday.

"I was stationed in the Inverness area during the war, but never noticed such objection to the Air Force's activities with bombs and guns. Apparently it's all right to blow the world to Hell on a Sunday — it's just putting it to rights that is a sin."

★

UPWARD STILL MOVING

The Financial Post,

September 21:

"For the consumer, the prices story shows no turn toward a happier note yet, a survey by The Financial Post indicates this week. In the major items of food, clothing, household appliances, the trend is still upwards with no break in sight."

"By the end of October, possibly sooner, an average of 35% (above current prices) would go on shoes; women likely would be putting 10% more than last year into new dresses and coats; British worsteds up 10 to 25% in the last three months still were rising."

★

HITLER SAID IT FIRST

Letter in Western Producer from S. V. Bryant, South Edmonton

"Sir—Mr. H. E. Nichols is probably unaware of the fact that his latest letter to the Forum was a repetition of another great man's argument against the secret ballot: 'It is irreconcilable with the dignity of the free and upright German man to sneak behind a curtain to mark his ballot. Proudly conscious of his privilege he should hand over an open ballot to the presiding official.'"

"The speaker was Adolf Hitler and the consequences we all know. . . ."

★

A PRETTY POOR SHOW

Letter to Editor, Calgary

Albertan, Sept. 19:

"After waiting a dozen years for the battle of the century, Social Credit vs. the international financiers head on, it happens!"

"The director of publicity for the Alberta government met the American Association of Bankers at a meeting on Wall Street in New York last week. Shucks, instead of their heads being brought back to Alberta on a silver tray, the Social Credit man shows them three movies of Alberta natural resources and invites them to come and help themselves.

"After all the advance publicity given us on the 'battle' between Social Credit and the international financiers it was a pretty poor show. I would like a refund on my ticket, Mr. Manning. I think the fight was 'fixed.'"

J. M."

Edmonton.

- FOOTPRINTS -

The Time Is Now

By J. P. GRIFFIN

"Pope's new heresy—if it will not pour you out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

WE sometimes meet the accusation—that the C.C.F., like all other parties, is full of promises that can never be fulfilled. This reproach would be quite justified if we did not make our promises conditional upon certain changes being made in our economic life.

Advertising is largely a matter of making promises. A picture of a snowy white line of clothes is a promise that soap will help in making them so. But we must use the soap aright. It will not do to throw it into the tub with the clothes unless we add some water, too. A picture of a gun bringing down a duck does not mean that it will act in that way if we fire it at a barn. In the same way the platform of the C.C.F., which is a kind of advertisement, does not mean that it will actually give us the promised assistance unless it is used in the right way.

Now the promises of security, freedom, and peace held out to men by Socialism and Christianity are contingent upon the correct use of the means by which we expect to realize them. Mr. Abbott's first budget has showed that Canada has a productive capacity of eleven billion dollars

annually. (These are the clothes hung out on the line). This means that no family in Canada has any physical need to suffer from want. But if we allow the wealth to remain wrapped up in the hands of a few corporations, and do not add a citizen's claim to it, a claim fluid enough to carry its particles into every home in Canada, then many share will go without their rightful share. The receipt of a rightful share if Canada's wealth will ensure our freedom from many of the fears that unnecessarily haunt us. It will also guarantee when distributed amongst the people of the world on a reciprocal basis, a just and lasting peace.

The promises are not based solely upon an advertiser's heated flights of imagination. We know we can produce the goods, because during the war we had access to more goods than we could have believed it possible to produce in the hungry thirties. We know too that there is an ever-advancing process of mechanization and use of power. In the realm of things we can be as confident of the result as any mathematician that adds up two and two.

But to shoot successfully we must aim at the duck. We must aim at brotherhood if we wish to hit the target of abundance. In co-operation with natural law we have produced abundance in co-operation with moral law we can distribute abundance too.

Time to Do Some Thinking

By J. E. COOK

PRESIDENT, ALBERTA C.C.F.

THREE years ago farmer and laborer were worried about finishing a war as was everybody, everywhere. Anything to get the boys out of the fighting zone and back home.

One year ago farmers of Alberta had a non-delivery strike and packing house labor necessarily had nothing to do. Now the packing house workers have a strike and farm produce that goes through such plants is seriously affected.

Well, what would it be worth to you to start down the road to ending such continuous and senseless man-made grief? What does it cost to permit such conditions or the causes of such conditions?

Why the strikes? There has been a long series of them since the boys began to come home from the war. What would it be worth to you to remove the need for strikes? The present packing-house strike has posed a problem sufficient to start something. It has highlighted the need for a co-operative packing-house set-up. Not a farmer producers' co-op, only, but a packing-house co-operative of the farmers and workers. A meat business that belongs to the people who produce the livestock and process the meat.

Sid Shepherd, manager of the Alberta Livestock Co-op, has thrown out the challenge. It will take, he says, nine million dollars to establish two such plants in Alberta. What part would you like to have in such a proposal. These

are days when working people have been having a little surplus. It is a time when it is possible to do something about taking over industry for the purpose of making it serve people instead of producing profit for shareholders.

There is a continent-wide drive against co-operatives. It is the time to carry the fight to those who want to fight. But it will require planning and adequacy in action.

There would have been more co-operative meat packing houses if it were not for the fear of unfair monopoly competition. Monopolies live only because of government permission and protection. It will require government support both in financing and in fair business legislation to make such a plan possible.

The present government in Ottawa has definitely placed them selves on the side of the packers in this strike. They have aligned themselves with private ownership and monopoly in industry. They are opposed to Co-operatives.

In a fiasco meeting of labor ministers representing eight of nine Canadian provinces in Toronto, everyone, with the exception of the representative from Saskatchewan, where there is a C.C.F. government, maintained that the present strike is illegal. That settles nothing except that it strengthens the packers' case to stay out.

If you are thinking in terms of Co-operative solution then you must think in terms of government that believes in co-operative settlement. Anyhow it is time to do some thinking. It is time for a change.

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M. J. Coldwell's Itinerary

Monday, Oct. 20th—Afternoon,
University of Alberta Political
Science Club.
Evening, Public meeting at
Calmar.
Tuesday, Oct. 21st—Evening,
Public meeting at Fairview.
Wednesday, Oct. 22nd—Evening,
Public meeting at Spirit River.
Thursday, Oct. 23rd—Afternoon,
Public meeting at Grande
Prairie.
Evening, Public meeting at
Edmonton Creek.

Tuesday, Nov. 4th—Afternoon,
Public meeting at Macleod.
Evening, Public meeting at
Lethbridge.
Wednesday, Nov. 5th—Evening,
Public meeting at Lacombe.
Thursday, Nov. 6th—Afternoon,
Convention at Ponoka.
Evening, Public meeting at
Wetaskiwin.
Friday, Nov. 7th—Evening, Public
meeting at Kitchy.
Saturday, Nov. 8th—Evening,
Public meeting at Wainwright.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND CLAIMANTS

In the Estate of PETER AR-
CHIBALD MACDONALD, late of
Edmonton, Alberta, Physician
and Surgeon, Deceased,

NOTICE is hereby given that
all persons having claims upon the
estate of the above-named Peter
Archibald Macdonald, who died
on the 16th day of August, A.D.
1947, are required to file with the
undersigned Solicitors by the 31st
day of October a full statement,
duly verified, of their claims and
of any securities held by them,
and that after that date the Ex-
ecutors will distribute the assets
of the Deceased among the parties
entitled thereto, having regard
only to the claims of which notice
has been so filed or which have
been brought to their knowledge.

DATED this 10th day of Sep-
tember, A.D. 1947.

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with Will Annexed.



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1.20 POSTPAID

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

October 5th to 11th, 1947

Attention

Home Owners

When you build, buy or re-
model, be sure your home will
protect your family from the
ever-present menace of Fire.

Every dwelling lost by Fire
puts a further strain upon the
present housing shortage.

Canada's Loss By Fire

1936	1946
21 Million	49 Million
Dollars	Dollars
Lives Lost	Lives Lost
347	408

During the past ten years the
loss of life and property has
steadily increased.

You can do your share to
help stop this. 80 per cent
of all Fires are caused from
carelessness.

Be Careful - Prevent Fires

Fire Prevention Poster Contest, Grades 7, 8, 9, All Schools in
City and District. 11 Cash Prizes. Contest closes October
13th. Pupils who did not get an entry form at school can get
one at No. 2 Fire Hall (Office). Posters will be collected
schools end of Fire Prevention Week.

CITY-COMMISSIONERS.

J. MacGREGOR, Fire Chief.

Calgary CCF Convention Plans Organization Work

CONDEMN DECONTROL ORDER

Mrs. Dorothy Steeves is
Guest Speaker—May Nom-
inate on November 17

Mrs. Dorothy Steeves of Van-
couver, returning from the Com-
monwealth Labor Conference in
Toronto was the guest speaker at
the Calgary Constituency Associa-
tion convention held in Reliance
Hall on September 15.

The president, George Ellinson,
addressed the meeting briefly.
Mrs. Hart, chairman of the or-
ganization committee, gave a com-
prehensive report of its work,
with many helpful suggestions as
to club formation and club ac-
tivities.

Joe Sykes, treasurer, reported
that almost \$700 had been raised
by the Stampede Booth. After
paying our obligations there was
reported a comfortable bank bal-
ance in our general fund. In order
to save this for election purposes,
it was suggested that we ask mem-
bers for a monetary contribution to
keep the office running and avoid
dipping into the general fund.

67 Delegates

The report of the credentials
committee given by Mrs. Geiger
showed 67 delegates, the number
of polls completely organized, and
ways of completing this poll or-
ganization.

A. J. E. Liesemer, M.L.A., ex-
plained the proposed 23 district
divisions of the city by means of
a map, showing how these could
be used to form clubs.

The convention then divided in-
to district groups to discuss plans

for club formation, meetings and
memberships to be checked back
to 1944. One member from each
club is to work on the organiza-
tion committee.

A resolution strongly condemn-
ing the relaxing of price controls
was passed, to be sent to the fed-
eral government.

Mrs. Steeves, reviewing the
highlights of the Toronto con-
ference, told of the reports from
Great Britain by Labor M.P.'s and
from Australian and New Zealand
speakers. The marvelous progress
made by these countries in social
security made Canada's lag all the
more miserable by contrast. She
was convinced that if we are to do
the same thing that they did in
England, we will have to work,
day by day, month by month, year
by year, as they did. The work
must be done by all of us.

Membership Campaign

If and when the C.C.F. wins it
will not be because Mr. Manning
or Mr. King is poor but because
we are good, she declared.

We are at the beginning of a
big membership campaign on
which depends the National Office;
self-sacrifice is what won the bat-
tle for the British Labor party she
reminded the audience.

Everyone present felt impelled
to do his utmost.

The executive was empowered
to call a nominating convention
November 17 if desired.

Miss Millie Bruce's resignation
as secretary was accepted with
regret. Miss Ruth Cherry is the
new secretary of the organization.

Wm. Irvine Meetings

Medicine Hat Federal
Constituency

Monday, Oct. 6th—Montgomery
School.

Tuesday, Oct. 7th—Graburn
School.

Wednesday, Oct. 8th—Magnet
Hall, Irvine.

Thursday, Oct. 9th—Many Islands
School.

Friday, Oct. 10th—Robinson
School.

Monday, Oct. 13th—Medicine Hat
Tuesday, Oct. 14th—Rolling Hills
Hall.

Wednesday, Oct. 15th—Rainier
Hall.

Thursday, Oct. 16th—Gem Hall.

Friday, Oct. 17th—Bindloss.

Saturday, Oct. 18th—Idlesleigh.
(All of the above are evening
meetings).

Roper to Speak to CCF Women Monday

Next meeting of the Edmonton
C.C.F. Women's Club will be held
at the home of Mrs. L. C. Fleet,
11109 - 91 Ave., on Monday, Oc-
tober 6th, at 8 p.m. The guest
speaker will be Elmer E. Roper,
M.L.A., Provincial Leader of the
C.C.F.

Following notice of motion at
the last meeting, a vote will be
taken on the advisability of set-
ting up a provincial women's com-
mittee. All members are urged to
be present and any women who
are interested will be cordially
welcomed.

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TO THE WOMEN



Each week, in this column, we
will publish a recipe from the
C.C.F. COOK BOOK. You can re-
ceive a copy of this book of favor-
ite Canadian recipes by sending
\$1.20 to us and we will mail it to
you postpaid.

We invite all our women read-
ers to send in a recipe. One of
these we will publish along with
our regular C.C.F. COOK BOOK
recipe.

Address your letters to "FOR
WOMEN ONLY," c/o "THE PEOP-
LE'S WEEKLY," 10010-102nd
Street.

CORN DUMPLINGS

1 cup cornmeal
2 teaspoons salt
2 cups boiling water
¾ cup flour (¾ cup whole
kernel corn optional)
2½ teaspoons baking powder
1 egg
2 tablespoons melted
shortening
1 teaspoon grated onion
Pinch of pepper

Add cornmeal and salt, slowly,
to water. Cook, stirring, 2 min-
utes. Remove from heat, cool. Mix
and sift dry ingredients, add to
corn meal. Mix well. Beat eggs.
Add all other ingredients. Form
balls. Roll in extra flour. Drop in
kettle on stew, keep covered,
steam 15 minutes. Keep closely
covered until done. Use stew or
chicken fricasse.

MRS. R. LAFOND,
Westmount, Que.

PHOTOGRAPHIC STUDIOS

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STUDIOS**

Let's Have More Interference

By Michael Foot, M.P.
London Daily Herald Columnist

THE attack on the Government, delivered by our Tory patriots and eagerly taken up on the other side of the Atlantic by persons who never loved us anyhow, boils down to one main charge.

Socialism, they say, has imposed so many restrictions, controls and interferences on private industry that the effect on production has been disastrous.

Production above all else is what Britain needs to overcome her difficulties. Therefore, down with Socialism.—Q.E.D.

More, for instance, is the kind of stuff the "Daily Mail" prints and which is eagerly taken up by Mr. Hearst and the counterparts of the "Daily Mail" in the United States:

"When nobody can do anything without the approval of the Government, it means that in the end everybody will do nothing. For the red tape winds itself round the cranks, chokes the machine, and stops the wheels."

That type of material is absolute jam for Mr. Hearst and his friends. They smear it all over

their front pages. Socialism has stopped the wheels of industry. Hence the mess in Britain. Whoops!

The Facts

Now let's look at the facts; facts which the "Daily Mail," which boasts every day how religiously it tells the truth, should print with prominence. The facts have been printed in the "Daily Herald" frequently. But, just for fun, let's take them from the Bulletin of the Oxford University Institute of Statistics. That ought to be good enough for the truth-telling, Bible thumping "Daily Mail," even in its most pompous mood.

The Bulletin (July issue, page 233) proves that the national resources produced by the nation in 1946, the last period for which full figures are available were considerably greater than in 1938.

Confirmed

This confirms the view expressed in the "Economist" a paper most unkindly to the Government that the total output of the British community is some 10 or 20 per cent above pre-war.

A similar judgment applies to productivity per man-hour. "Taking every branch of activity into account," says the Bulletin, "it is probably fair to conclude that productivity was

in 1945 and 1946 somewhat above pre-war."

"We have stopped the wheels," shrieks the "Daily Mail." In fact, the wheels are producing more than before the war.

But why then, it may be asked are we in difficulties? Why do we face a crisis? Why is our balance of payments situation so badly out of balance? It is a fair question and the Bulletin provides the real answers, which the "Daily Mail," in its venom against the Government, has not the honesty to repeat.

The main reasons for the change in our balance of payments situation as compared with pre-war are two-fold. The change is due (1) to the fierce rise in world prices against us or, in other words, the near-famine world shortage of food and raw materials, and (2) to the steep rise in our overseas and military expenditure.

Striking

The first of these facts is proved (page 235 of the Bulletin) by a most striking example. If world prices in 1938 had been as badly against us in that year as they are today, the deficit in our balance of payments then would have been—not £70,000,000, as it actually was—but £400,000,000, or about two-thirds of the adverse balance with which we are now faced.

The rest of the adverse balance is more than accounted for by the big increase in our overseas expenditure.

If those are the facts, what are the right deductions to draw from them? The first and the simplest is surely that we must economize drastically on our overseas expenditure.

That is an argument which some of us in the House of Commons have been hammering away at for months without any assistance from the Young Tories so deeply beloved by the "Daily Mail."

Indeed, they are so muddled that they are already protesting against the new cuts in the armed forces projected by the Government.

Old Ways

The second deduction surely is that it would be no remedy and worse than a remedy, to return to the old ways of 1938, when the "cranks" were free of "red tape," when total production was lower than it is today, and when, without existing famine conditions throughout the world, we were already running into a balance of payments crisis, which was only concealed a year or two later by Lease-Lend.

Quite different remedies must be sought. Most of them involved a yet more drastic curtailment on inessential production; in short more State and Socialist interference with industry. They will involve, too, more imaginative schemes for planning our trade with other nations; in other words, again, more planning not less.

Certainly, what is NOT needed is a return to so-called "free enterprise" or the business man's methods, as advocated by the "Daily Mail." It is precisely those methods which are responsible for the fact that we have to rebuild our country after the war with industries which were starved of capital and re-equipment in the bad old days.

"But, ah!" someone may interject, "what about coal? Is not coal production less than pre-war? And is not coal the most important commodity of all?"

Yes it is true. Despite the total increase in production, coal output is still much lower than pre-war, and coal is certainly the most important commodity of all.

But here, again, are a few facts which our Tory patriots might reprint for the benefit of their blood-brothers on the other side of the ocean.

Coal productivity in Britain per man has more nearly recovered the pre-war level than in any other country in Europe. The percentage of miners' time lost by strikes since 1945 is less

(Continued on Page 8)

PACKINGHOUSE WAGES

The strike of packinghouse employees of the six plants of Burns & Co. is now in its third week. When discussions opened on the question of a wage increase in the recent negotiations for a renewal of the labor contract between the United Packinghouse Workers of America, a C.I.O. Union, and the Company a strike was the result. This could have been avoided by conciliation as proposed by the packers and refused by the Union at the time negotiations broke up, and employees could have gone on working while the question of a wage increase was being settled.



The accompanying chart shows the distribution of the Company's income from packinghouse operations. No one could possibly say that our profit of 35c out of every \$100.00 of income permits of our absorbing such additional costs as represented by the Union's demands for increased wages.

PRESENT EARNINGS

The scale of wages for male plant employees is 73½¢ to \$1.21½¢. The average hourly earnings and average annual earnings of employees are:

	Per Hour	Per Annum
Male	90.3c	\$2,019.00
Female	69c	\$1,526.00

90% of all plant employees earn more than the minimum rate, the average of male and female being 85½¢ per hour or \$1,900.00 per annum. This is in excess of the average wages paid in Canadian industry.

In addition to the foregoing wages our employees receive:

- Annual vacation with pay up to three weeks based on length of service.
- Eight Statutory holidays with pay.
- Hourly paid employees are guaranteed 37½ hours pay out of a 45-hour week regardless whether or not they actually work the 37½ hours.
- Rest period of ten minutes each in the morning and afternoon.

These additional privileges represent a further cost of at least 8c per hour or \$175.00 a year for each employee.

INCREASES ALREADY GRANTED

From 1939 to December, 1946, wage rates for plant employees in our Company have increased 71%
In the same period wage rates in industry throughout Canada have increased..... 54.6%

WAGES BEING DEMANDED

The Union has demanded wage increases of 19c an hour for males and 17c an hour for females. This would make the average wage costs per employee:

	Per Hour	Per Annum
Males	\$1.09	\$2,437.00
Females87	\$1,900.00

These demands are exorbitant and far in excess of the average wages paid in Canadian industries. Their payment would mean an increase of \$1,100,000.00 in cost to this Company.

Who will bear this cost?

It cannot be the Company, because our profit last year was only \$234,000.00 in packinghouse operations.

Therefore the cost must be borne by you, the Consumer and Producer.

*44 hours in Saskatchewan and British Columbia.

BURNS & CO. LIMITED

A BIT OF Nonsense

The human brain is wonderful. It starts working the minute you arise in the morning and never stops until you get into a quiz contest.

The committee of the village women's institute were discussing their program. One member suggested that a glove-making class would be interesting.

"Do you think that's really necessary — at our age, I mean?" asked one elderly woman, looking rather alarmed.

"What, glove-making?" she was asked.

"Oh," she said, looking greatly relieved, "I thought you said love-making!"

The taxi was a very ancient one and had taken the long time to reach its destination.

As the passenger paid his fare he remarked:

"How do you manage when your fare is in a desperate hurry?"

"Ah," said the driver, confidentially, "I keeps on changin' me gears and on'king me 'ooter'."

Many a legislator is loyal to his trust. For that matter, he is loyal to several trusts.

JUST A MINUTE!

By A. J. E. LIESEMER, M.L.A.
It takes missionaries to spread the gospel.

In so far as the weekly C.C.F. broadcasts may be adequately interpreting the C.C.F. gospel, they are worthwhile and effective. They would be three times as effective if the listener audience were three times as large.

Will you do a little missionary work in your corner? A few minutes before the time of the broadcast in your radio zone will you phone up two of your friends and invite them to listen—two friends who are not necessarily already converted but who are open-minded intelligent citizens. Phone the same two up for three successive broadcasts and you will have done your share in tripling the listened audience.

Moreover, if you undertake this you won't forget to listen yourself!

Seriously though, will you do this? Five minutes before the broadcast on three successive weeks will you call up the same two friends and remind them?

I can think of no easier and faster way to help spread the C.C.F. gospel and to elect C.C.F. governments that will implement the great principles of the Co-operative Commonwealth.

Scholarship Winner



JEAN KEELEY

Miss Jean Keeley, Mayerthorpe, talented young pianist, is the winner of one of the top awards of the Western Board of Music in Alberta. She won the joint scholarship of the Edmonton Maritime Provinces Association and Mount Allison Conservatory, as well as the John Burns and CKUA scholarships. She will continue her piano studies at Mount Allison University. Following the announcement of the awards, Miss Keeley and a number of other recipients of scholarships and diploma awards, played at a concert at the University of Alberta.

Miss Keeley is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Keeley, active C.C.F. workers. Mr. Keeley is president of the Lac Ste. Anne Provincial Constituency Association and also heads the Jasper-Edson Federal Constituency Association. A host of C.C.F. friends join in extending congratulations to Miss Keeley and her proud parents.

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Invite your friends and neighbors to listen in to these five-minute talks each week.

You're 'Free' Again

Radio Talk by Elmer E. Roper, M.L.A.

ISN'T it great to be free again? The other day price controls were lifted in Canada and everything Canadian families must buy to live took another upward flight. Daily newspapers like the Edmonton Journal said it was too bad prices had to go up, but it was nevertheless the proper thing to do, because Canadians preferred freedom to regimentation and totalitarianism. So I say, isn't it nice to be free again?

You see, two or three weeks ago, when bread was ten cents a loaf, you weren't free. But now that you pay thirteen cents a loaf, and clothing and shoes and lumber and household goods have all gone up, and everything you buy to operate your farm has increased in price, why — now you're free again!

If that sounds a bit silly, don't blame me. Blame the Liberal and Tory, and especially the Social Credit politicians who have been crying for the lifting of price controls ever since the war stopped.

Carry Out Their Promise
Now it is true that the last Gallup Poll on the question of price controls showed that 66 per cent of the people of Canada wanted the controls to continue. But the fellows the Canadian people elected to parliament didn't pay any attention to that. They were determined to make you free to pay higher prices, whether you liked it or not. They have a pretty good argument at that.

The Liberals remind you that when they asked for re-election in 1945 they told the people that they would remove controls on prices as soon as possible. So actually they are carrying out their promise.

And, of course, the Tory and Social Credit fellows were even more vociferous in their demands for the immediate lifting of all controls.

Voted For It
So maybe you shouldn't blame the politicians at all. Maybe you should ask yourself, how did I vote in 1945? And am I getting what I voted for? The cold, hard, inescapable fact is that the majority of the Canadian people were persuaded in 1945 that their freedom depended on electing a government that didn't believe in exercising any democratic people's

control over the economic life of the nation.

The Canadian people voted in 1945 for exactly what they are getting now — freedom to make more and bigger contributions to the coffers of Canadian big business.

They Don't Like It

And now that the people have been given the freedom they voted for — freedom to pay more for everything — they don't like it. The Labor organizations, the Canadian Federation of Agriculture and all the other farm groups, the average man and woman who sees the family income cut down by higher prices, are all protesting against what has happened. They are demanding the reimposition of controls. They are finding that the boasted freedom for which they actually voted in 1945, isn't what it was cracked up to be.

Worst Yet To Come

Well, cheer up. The worst is yet to come. This piling up of increased prices and abnormal profits for big business, is only the beginning of a cycle the full turn of which we have yet to experience. Like a snowball rolling down hill, like the pebbles which dropping from the top of a mountain can start off a landslide before they reach the bottom, so are the present happenings in the economic life of this continent leading to a depression bigger and more devastating than the last one. That's the way this system always works.

Can Stop Depression

But the Canadian people who voted in 1945 for what they are getting now, can stop depression by their votes in the next election. They can stop it by electing a C.C.F. government.

When we were in the midst of the last depression the C.C.F. said the adoption of certain measures of democratic government control over the production and distribution of goods, would banish the depression. When war came the government was compelled to carry out a large part of the C.C.F. program of democratic government controls and prosperity came. Now the economy has been handed back to the profiteers and depression is on the way again.

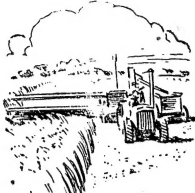
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PERSONAL STUFF

(Continued from page 1)

We walked the mile and a half to the floor of the entry and watched the machine men cutting out a clay vein near the top of the seams. Below this is a step of "bone", which the miners blow off propellers to mining the thick seam of hard coal. But of course the real mining is not done in the entry, but in "rooms" that branch off from the entry. In flat seam mining the rooms are like the rooms of a house, all on the same floor level. But in pitching seam mining the "rooms" are tilted on an angle, in Mercator about thirty-two degrees. So the rooms go upward from the entry level and the work of mining is done, as it were, on the side of a hill under the mountain.

We first watched a string of cars being filled from one of the chutes leading up to a room. There is no loading problem here. The coal runs down the chute when the gate at the bottom is opened and the trip of cars was filled in a few minutes. Then we climbed up the "steps" at the side of the chute to where another pair of machine men were cutting at the coal face. This was a room where the previous mining of coal had been cleaned out and the process of cutting, drilling and shooting down of more coal was beginning over again. Then we crawled back to where a crosscut connected the room to the next one. In this room the coal which had been mined was lying in huge lumps ready to run down the chute to the cars in the entry below. There have been lumps weighing two tons shipped from the Mercator mine. Most of the coal goes to the Pacific coast. The mine is now producing close to one thousand tons a day.

We had an excellent meeting at Cadomin. There must have been thirty or more young people in the audience, older high school students who will vote next year. They were keenly interested and a number of them crowded around after the meeting to talk and ask questions. I liked that. The Mercator meeting was smaller, but a useful one. There are some enthusiastic C.C.F.ers in the Coal Branch camps. I expect them to do a real job of organization during the coming winter. It is about time that constituency got some effective representation in the legislature again. The neglect of the road from Mercator to Mountain Park is appalling. What most of it needs is some regular maintenance. The big maintainer which is there for that purpose sits rusting at the side of the road for most of the time. I heard some harsh words about the road in the

two days I was there. But the day I went up the Branch in the day it would have taken more than a rough road to spoil the trip. The foothills were ablaze with color and the sky a brilliant blue across which the whitest clouds drifted in last patterns. Altogether it was a most satisfactory trip, encouraging and pleasant. The visit underground was in itself worth the journey. I suggested to the miners that all members of the legislature should be compelled by law to go into a mine, at least once in each term. The suggestion was applauded.

Let's Have More

(Continued from Page Six)

than in the United States and vastly less than in the two years after the last war in this country. And the decline in coal output and recruitment for the mines, WHICH HAS BEEN GOING ALMOST EVERY YEAR WITHOUT EXCEPTION SINCE 1920 has in 1947 been checked.

Problems

We have still got to do much more and much better. Perhaps the Coal Board is not found to be a perfect machine—in its first year of existence. It can be made better. But it has done more for the miners in six months than the coal owners did in half a century, and more in a few days than the "Daily Mail" ever did in the whole of its lifetime.

The miners, like the rest of the common people of Britain, have many tough problems to tackle. But in dealing with them, despite all the "Daily Mail's" efforts to bedevil the issues, they will not forget who are their friends and who are their enemies.

Roper Hits Out

(Continued from Page 1)

"Our opposition is to the heads we lose tail you win" feature of the deal under which the experiment is being carried out."

Premier Manning told the press that although the government is putting up the money, if the experiment is a success the plant can be sold to private interests for what it cost.

Outrageous Arrangement

"It is precisely because the plant is successful not only can, but under the agreement must, be sold to a private promoter that we oppose the outrageous oil sands arrangement and will continue to do so," the C.C.F. leader said.

"The agreement with Oil Sands Limited provides that the government puts up all the money for the experiment," Mr. Roper said. "If it proves to be successful the government must sell the plant, on a very easy-payment basis, to the company. Our position is that

since public money is being spent to erect the plant, all the benefits should accrue to the public if the experiment is a success," he added.

"The government has argued, in connection with other oil development in the province, that private enterprise which risks its capital to prove an oil field, is entitled to the rewards of its faith and willingness to venture," Mr. Roper recalled.

"In the case of the oil sands deal the public is taking all the risk with the major rewards going to a private company promoter if the risk pays off," he concluded.

Co-op Packing

(Continued from Page 1)

be staffed with union workers who would also share in the benefits.

He pointed out that annual losses to stock raisers through repeated tie-ups in labor and management disputes already amount to more than the \$100 which he suggests the farmers might contribute to a packing plant fund.

Support for the proposal has come from R. J. Boutillier, secretary-treasurer of the Alberta Farmers Union, who is contacting the United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section, for their views on the suggestion. Mr. Boutillier is also contacting the United Farmers of Alberta and the Alberta Federation of Agriculture.

Costs Farmers Plenty

Mr. Sheppard said that packing plant tie-ups have cost the farmers of this province millions of dollars in time, feed, and to say nothing of the losses sustained in grade through overweight.

"The average hog weighs 11 dollars and cents around \$150.00 each in the case of a small farmer and those who farm on a larger scale considerably more," he said. "Multiply that by 90,000 farmers in this province and see what you get."

Discouraging to West

"The A.L.C. has done everything possible to keep an ever present picture before the hog producer in continually upping production," he pointed out, "but the same cannot be said for the dominion government. If the authorities in Ottawa had set out to deliberately discourage Alberta farmers out of hog production entirely, they couldn't have done a better job. The dominion government has not been sympathetic to the western producer and has catered on a large scale to eastern Canada. Alberta has proven that she can lead all provinces in hog production, and today she stands first."

Time to be Heard

"For some time now producers have been agitating for a co-operative packing plant," Mr. Sheppard stated, "and it has not been generally agreed by officials of the A.L.C. board that the time was opportune. If the opportunity is ever to come—it's right here now. Between management and labor disputes, tie-ups through strikes, and the ineffectiveness of governments to settle this present national situation, I think it's high time the producer made himself heard. He's a little sick of being 'icked around.'"

Mr. Sheppard pointed out that if co-operatives went into the packing business, "it would have to be on a big scale, building two fully equipped modern plants—which would be staffed with union co-partnership labor, on the same basis as the British co-operatives."

Wants Aid to Britain

The announcement that the British bacon ration is again threatened has further emphasized the fact that farmers of necessity will have to step into the processing industry, Mr. Sheppard declares. "They could then make their own commitments if necessary with the British co-operatives and get meat supplies abroad. 'The people abroad are going to get meat to eat if the co-ops have anything to do with it,' he observed.

"The producer has had too many set-backs in Alberta and has become discouraged," he said. "But the time has come when the Alberta farmer has got to show

some personal initiative and take a definite stand. Today we have a market for our products and we intend to keep that market, if Alberta farmers can't get their processing done here and maintain a continuity of supply to the British market, farmers would be well advised to step into the picture themselves and settle labour problems once and for all."

Questioned as to whether Alberta farmers would come forward with \$100,000 to open two plants, Mr. Sheppard replied, "I'll say they will, my first telephone call this morning after the news announcement was a guarantee of one thousand dollars as soon as all details are worked out and a producer's meeting called."

"All that the farmers have to learn in this province is to stick together in one united front," he declared. "That's what the unions are doing, and making us like it. It's the farmer who holds the nation's welfare in his hand, and never forget that. The sooner the farmers of Alberta realize what one united front could present in this situation, the better."

Asks Parliament

(Continued from page 1)

never have the social security which was rightly theirs.

The Sudbury speech followed several other large meetings at northern Ontario points where Mr. Coldwell addressed auditors last week. In North Bay on September 25 the C.C.F. leader compared the trends in labor legislation in the various countries of the Commonwealth, charging that Canadian laws recently passed were "perilously near" to emulating the United States Taft-Hartley act.

Mr. Coldwell said, and the fact of the Dominion government to pass an adequate national labor code showed its "inherent unfriendliness to the labor movement."

Labour laws recently enacted by several of the Canadian provinces were a step in the wrong direction, Mr. Coldwell said, and the fact of the Dominion government to pass an adequate national labor code showed its "inherent unfriendliness to the labor movement."

Press Interviews

(Continued from page 1)

when he saw his words in print. That wasn't what he intended to say, or to mean, or something!

Hardly had this little episode dropped off the front pages of eastern Canada dailies when Agriculture Minister Gardiner landed back in Ottawa from Britain. He gave an interview to the press. Cagney Little Jimmy referred to Mr. Howe's difficulties, and smilingly said that he wouldn't comment on the British Government.

Imagine his surprise the next morning to find that he had fallen into the same kettle of fish.

Mr. Gardiner Was Right

In a news story the Ottawa "Journal" reported Mr. Gardiner as saying that he had "found the people of Britain enjoying their highest standard of living in 11 years", and that "the British are living better now than when I saw them even in pre-war years."

Editorially the "Journal" took "Jimmy" to task. "Is Mr. Gardiner right. We think not," they said.

Of course Mr. Gardiner was right! In spite of Britain's incredible succession of difficulties, the standard of living for most British working people is higher today than in pre-war. It is for three simple, but very basic reasons:

First, there is full employment. So everybody has an income.

Secondly, there are no shortages, each gets his fair share through an effective rationing system.

Third, through government subsidization of basic commodities to the tune of \$1 1/2 billions annually, prices are kept within reach of the lowest income levels. Thus, consumption of foods like milk is higher than ever. And Britain's cost of living index is actually lower than at the end of the war.

Politically Embarrassing All of this, of course, immediately became politically embarrassing for "Jimmy". Viewed in cold

print it was obviously not the thing to have said. So . . . Correction for the press! Mr. Gardiner's exact words, so he informed the Ottawa "Citizen" were:—

"For what it is worth, those who normally live on lower standards are better fed and better clothed than at any previous time I visited there."

For what it is worth? queries Mr. Gardiner. Well, it's worth this:

In human terms, a rising generation of children who, despite shortages, are admitted by all to look fitter and healthier than ever before.

In political terms, confidence in the Labor Government rests firm despite its trials and tribulations. By-election victories have gone on for the longest, unbroken series of Government successes at the polls ever recorded in British history.

British Unions

(Continued from Page 1)

100 years from private owners."

The Minister of Labor, the Rt. Hon. George A. Isaacs, M.P., explained the Government plan for

limiting the direction of labor to essential industries, during our present crisis. When a worker comes out of one job he will be able to take on another only through the Labor Exchange, which will give him a choice of jobs available in essential industries, and will use compulsory direction to a specific job only as a last resort. Workers will not be allowed to go into luxury industries while our essential basic industries lack labor.

Inevitable

Although trade unionists do not like such restrictions this scheme was accepted as inevitable owing to the economic difficulties of our country at the present time and the need to build up essential and export industries vital to our economic prosperity.

There were complaints that so far all the compulsion was being applied to workers while others escaped. Disputes were made that work at all. Asked what he proposed to do about this Mr. Isaacs replied, "Wait and see."

SASKATCHEWAN WANTS ACTION ON PRICE FIXING

REGINA. — A statement from the Saskatchewan government requesting the Dominion government to take more vigorous action against monopolies and cartels was issued by Acting Premier J. W. Corman following the announcement of Justice Minister J. L. Hiesley that a combination in restraint of price competition existed in the dental supply industry.

"The people of Saskatchewan are convinced that price-fixing combines exist in many other industries and that action by the federal authorities is long overdue," Mr. Corman said. "With due to Mr. Corman said, practically gone the public is entitled to protection against exorbitant prices fixed and maintained by monopolies and cartels."

Mr. Corman pointed out that criminal information has recently been filed against 19 United States firms, charging a conspiracy to fix automobile tire prices. And he noted that in the war crimes trials of German industrialists documents had been introduced linking 53 United States and seven Canadian firms with former German combines.

"The people of this province are demanding that the Canadian counterparts of those German big shots be investigated from top to bottom and where price fixing and supply control are established that they be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law," the attorney general added.

Mr. Corman said the Saskatchewan government contended that federal retirement on price control meant that control merely passed to large corporations and monopolies in many cases, and he added that failure to take action against all combines, monopolies and cartels would confirm this view.

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